GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:528
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2001
PENSION SCHEME TO MTNL
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from different Employees Unions for making provision of Pension facility for the employees of M.T.N.L. as being received by the employees of B.S.N.L.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government received representations from some employees Unions for making provision of Pension faclities for the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) employees on the same lines as are applicable to the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) employees.

(b) After insertion of Rule 37 A in the CCS(Pension) Rules, 1972 with effect from 30.9.2000, there has been a consistent demand from the Staff Unions of MTNL that payment of pension by the Government to the employees absorbed in MTNL should be on the lines at par with those applicable to BSNL. Rule 37-A prescribes the condition governing payment of pensionary benefits including family pension to the employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). As per the said rule, Government has to pay the pension including the family pension to the absorbed employees of BSNL.

(c) Demand of the employees unions has been examined by Department of Telecommunications, in consultation with Department of Pension & Pensioner`s Welfare and it has not been found feasible to accede to the above demand because of the fact that Rule 37-A of CCS Pension Rules 1972 has come into force with effect from 30.9.2000, whereas absorption of Group `C` and `D` employees in the MTNL has taken effect from 01.11.1998 i.e. on a date much earlier than the date of effect of Rule-37-A. The said demand, if acceded to, would open floodgates by setting a precedent for all other similar placed cases.